

Message Text

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70

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-14 RSC-01

AID-20 EB-11 COME-00 SIL-01 LAB-06 TRSE-00 SS-20

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R 221428Z MAY 74

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4197

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 1909

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG, UNDP, EAID, BC

SUBJECT: BOTSWANA ROAD

1. REMEMBERING AMBASSADOR SCHAUFLE'S ROLE IN
AUG-SEP 1972 WHEN SECURITY COUNCIL BRIEFLY BECAME INVOLVED
WITH ROAD (STATE 171665, USUN 15541, ETC.), BOTSWANA
PERMREP MOGAMI CALLED ON USUN AFTERNOON 21 MAY TO
EXPRESS HIS CONCERN TO SCHAUFLE THAT USG WAS SEEMINGLY
UNABLE OR UNWILLING TO COME UP WITH ADDITIONAL \$12
MILLION IN SOFT LOAN FUNDS TO PAVE ITS SEGMENT OF ROAD
WHEN ALL OTHER DONORS (THE SCANDINAVIANS AND THE
CANADIANS) WERE COMING UP WITH ADDITIONAL MONEYS UP-
GRADE THEIR SEGMENTS. THIS LOOKED PARTICULARLY BAD
AS USG LOOKED UPON IN BOTSWANA AS FARTHER OF OVERALL
ROAD PROJECT AND VERY FEW PEOPLE IN BOTSWANA WOULD
EITHER UNDERSTAND OR BELIEVE THE BUREAUCRATIC OR CON-
GRESSIONAL REASONS GIVEN AS TO WHY THE USG WAS UNABLE
TO COME UP WITH THE NEEDED ADDITIONAL FUNDS.

2. MOGAMI ADDED THAT, BASED HIS DISCUSSIONS, THERE
NOW GOOD CHANCE UNDP WOULD MAKE \$1.5 MILLION AVAILABLE
FORM CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND TO HELP FINANCE PAVEMENT
OF US SECTION OF ROAD. BUT GOB DID NOT KNOW WHERE THE
OTHER APPROXIMATELY \$10-11 MILLION WOULD COME FROM
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UNLESS BOTSWANA SACRIFIED OR POSTPONED BULK OF ITS

DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR FIVE YEARS IN ORDER TO FINANCE
REMAINDER ITSELF. SUCH A DECISION WOULD LIKELY BE USED
BY THE GOB'S DOMESTIC POLITICAL OPPONENTS TO EMBARRASS
GOB AND TO ATTEMPT HARM GOB-USG RELATIONS.

3. MOGAMI SAID THAT THE FUNDING DECISION HAD TO BE
MADE IN NEXT TWOWEEKS AS CONTRACTOR (GROVE INTERNATIONAL)
IN PLACE AND ANY FURTHER DELAY IN BEGINNING PROJECT WOULD
BE TOO EXPENSIVE TO ALL PARTIES. HE ADDED THAT HERMANS
OF GOB'S MINISTRY OF FINANCE IN WASHINGTON ON IBRD
BUSINESS AND LIKELY WOULD VISIT DEPT RE THIS MATTER.
4. WITHOUT OFFERING ANY ENCOURAGEMENT SCHAUFLELE SAID
HE WOULD CONVEY HIS REMARKS TO WASHINGTON.
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